



GRAFFITI INFORMATION

What is graffiti?

- Graffiti is the unauthorized writing or drawing on a surface in a public place or on private property.

Why does graffiti occur?

- Graffiti can occur for many reasons: vandalism, recognition, send a message, mark territory or an expression of art.

Who is responsible for removing graffiti?

- It is the property owner's responsibility to remove graffiti within 24 hours of the vandalism occurring or as soon as possible after being vandalized.

Where does graffiti occur most often in West Valley City?

- Most graffiti in West Valley City is found in highly visible places such as main thoroughfares and streets, near schools and where there is quick and easy access to a large surface.

When is graffiti occurring in West Valley City?

- The most common time for graffiti to occur in West Valley City is during the nighttime and early morning hours.

CONTACT US



Community Preservation Headquarters Hours:

Monday - Thursday

7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Closed Friday - Sunday, and Holidays

Code Enforcement Reporting

Main Number: (801) 963-3289

Graffiti Hotline: (801) 963-3467

Online Map: www.wvc-ut.gov/codemap

Police Reporting

Non-Emergency Dispatch: (801) 840-4000

Emergency Dispatch: 9 1 1



WEST VALLEY CITY

Unity Pride Progress

GRAFFITI WATCH CODE ENFORCEMENT



WEST VALLEY CITY

Unity Pride Progress

West Valley City

Code Enforcement Division

Community Preservation Headquarters

4522 West 3500 South

West Valley City, Utah 84120

www.wvc-ut.gov/codeenforcement

**Code Enforcement strives to
promote the health, safety and
welfare of the citizens of
West Valley City**



WHAT IF I AM A VICTIM OF GRAFFITI

Be Aware

Help friends and neighbors be aware and to keep an eye out for suspicious activities and events that may be taking place in your neighborhood. Starting or maintaining a Neighborhood Watch Program in your neighborhood is a great way to help residents Be Aware. Contact the West Valley City Neighborhood Services Division at (801) 963-3562.

Set an Example

Keep your yard clean and maintained. Show that you care and are not going to put up with eyesores on your property.

Remove Graffiti Promptly

If you are a victim of graffiti, be sure to remove it within 24 hours of the vandalism occurring or as soon as possible after being vandalized. The sooner graffiti is removed, the less of a chance that a recurrence will take place. Removing graffiti in a timely manner will discourage graffiti artists and does not allow other potential offenders to see the graffiti and respond.

Report Graffiti

It is important to let West Valley City know when graffiti occurs in your neighborhood. To report graffiti, call:

- Code Enforcement at (801) 963-3467, and
- Police Department at (801) 840-4000.

Prepare for Graffiti

Install additional lights to illuminate dark areas on your property or within the neighborhood. If possible, plant shrubs or bushes in front of large surfaces that are potential targets for graffiti. Planting shrubs or bushes can make it more difficult to get to a surface and therefore deter graffiti.

TIPS TO PREVENT GRAFFITI

- Graffiti “artists” want their work to be seen. By removing it immediately, their time and energy is wasted. Removing graffiti promptly is the best way to discourage future graffiti.
- Add additional lighting to the area so vandals will be seen easily.
- Choose paints that are easy to clean in case the vandalism reoccurs.
- Add texture to the paint to make it more difficult to paint decoratively.
- When you see graffiti in the City, encourage property owners to report the vandalism to the police department and then promptly remove it.
- Work together with City departments to help keep our City a nice place to live and work!
- If possible, plant shrubs or bushes in front of large surfaces that are potential targets for graffiti. Planting shrubs or bushes can make it more difficult to get to a surface and therefore deter graffiti.



GRAFFITI REMOVAL

Vinyl Fences

Vinyl is a solid surface and most graffiti can be removed with some products including: Krud Kutter™, Tag Away™ or Graffiti Scrubs™. These products will take the graffiti off with a little scrubbing and will not damage the vinyl. Before graffiti happens, spray a coat of Armor All™ on the surface of the fence to make it easier to remove graffiti.

Wood Fences

Wood is a very absorbent surface. There is really no way to take graffiti off a wood fence without altering the wood. A pressure washer will take graffiti off and take the wood back to its original state, requiring refinishing. Another method to try is to use a steel wire brush with mineral spirits or just repaint the fence.

Power Poles

Most power poles are galvanized steel or wood. Galvanized steel poles can be cleaned with almost any chemical and will not hurt the pole, even acetone and mineral spirits. On a wood pole, use a pressure washer or repaint the pole.

Mailboxes

Mailboxes are usually solid surfaces and can be cleaned with Krud Kutter™, Tag Away™ or Graffiti Scrubs™ with a little scrubbing.

Cinderblock and Brick

Cinderblock or brick walls are very porous surfaces and take a little more work than most surfaces to remove graffiti. A few options to clean these surfaces include: soda blasting, pressure washer using a chemical or painting over the graffiti. Spray the wall with an anti-graffiti chemical to make it easier to clean if vandalism occurs.

Where can I buy these products?

Most of the products mentioned above can be purchased at The Home Depot, Lowes, Wal-mart, Sherwin Williams and most industrial supply warehouses.